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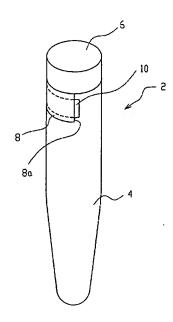
(54) 【発明の名称】試験管及び分注システム

(57)【要約】

【課題】分注された検体に関する識別情報を容易に付与 することができる試験管を提供すること。

【解決手段】試験管2は、一端が閉じ他端に開口部を有 する円筒状の収容部4と、開口部を閉じる蓋部6とを備 えている。また、収容部4の上部、即ち蓋部6の下縁に 沿った位置に、RFIDタグ10を挿入可能な差込部8 が設けられている。この差込部8は、RFIDタグ10 を収容部8の外周部に沿って挿入可能な挿入口80を有 する。このRFIDタグ10には、試験管2に収容され た検体の検体情報(受付日、検体 ID)等が記憶されて 117.

【選択図】 図1



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】

ー端が閉じ他端に開口部を有する筒状の収容部と、前記開口部を閉じる蓋部とを構える試験管であって、

前記収容部の外周部に、第1のRFIDタグを挿入可能な差込部を有することを特徴とする試験管。

【請求項2】

前記差込部は、前記収容部の上部外周部に設けられていることを特徴とする請求項1記載の試験管。

【請求項3】

前記差込部は、前記第1のRFIDタグを前記収容部の外周部に沿って挿入可能な挿入口を有することを特徴とする請求項1又は請求項2記載の試験管。

【請求項4】

前記第1のRFIDタグは、マイクロ波方式のRFIDタグにより構成されることを特徴とする請求項1~請求項3の何れか一項に記載の試験管。

【請求項5】

前記差込部に前記第1のRFIDタグが差し込まれたことを特徴とする請求項1~請求項 4の何れか一項に記載の試験管。

【請求項6】

請求項5記載の試験管により構成される元検体用検体容器と、

請求項5記載の試験管により構成される分注検体用検体容器と、

前記元検体用検体容器の前記収容部に挿入された分注へッドにより元検体の一部を吸引し、前記分注検体用検体容器に吐出する分注装置と

を備える分注システムにおいて、

前記分注ヘッドに前記第1のRFIDタグに対して精報の送受信を行うための第1のアンテナを備えることを特徴とする分注システム。

【請求項7】

前記分注ヘッドを前記元検体用検体容器内に挿入した際に、前記第1のアンテナを介して前記元検体用検体容器に備えられている前記第1のRFIDタグに記憶されている検体構報を受信する受信手段と、

前記分注ヘッドを前記分注検体用検体容器内に挿入した際に、前記第1のアンテナを介して前記分注検体用検体容器に構えられている前記第1のRFIDタグに検体精報を送信する送信手段を

更に備えることを特徴とする請求項6記載の分注システム。

【請求項8】

複数本の前記分注検体用検体容器を収容する検体ラックを更に備え、

該検体ラックは、 該検体ラックに収容されている前記分注検体用検体容器に関する検体指示情報を記憶する検体指示情報記憶手段を有することを特徴とする請求項 6 又は請求項7記載の分注システム。

【請求項9】

前記検体指示摘報記憶手段は、第2のRFIDタグにより構成され、該第2のRFIDタグに対して精報の送受信を行うための第2のアンテナを更に備えることを特徴とする請求項6~請求項8の何れか一項に記載の分注システム。

【請求項10】

前記第2のRFIDタグは、電磁誘導方式のRFIDタグにより構成されることを特徴とする請求項9記載の分注システム。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】

この発明は、血液、血 、血清等の検体を収容する試験管、及び該試験管を用りた分注シ

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ステムに関するものである。

[0002]

【従来の技術】

従来、血液、血 、血清等の検体を収容する検体容器は、検体の検査等を行う検査機関に 搬送され、検査機関にあいて受付処理が行われた後に検体ラックに収容されて保管される。即ち、まず、受付処理、例えば、検査機関に搬送された検体を収容した検体容器に、検体番号、受付日等を含む検体構報を記載したラベル等の貼り付けが行われる。次に、受付処理が行われた検体は、検体ラックに収容され、例えば、ラックの収容部の位置番号とそのラックに保管されている検体の検体構報等を関連付ける(紐付ける)ことによって検体指示精報が作成され、この検体指示精報に基づいて検体の保管が行われると共に検体の検査等が行われる(例えば、特許文献1参照)。

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[0003]

【特許文献1】

特開平8-285855号公報

[0004]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】

検体の検査が指示された場合には、検体指示情報に基づいて、必要な検体が検体ラックから抜き取られ、分注が行われ、分注された検体を用いて検査が行われる。この場合には、分注された検体に関する検体情報が記載されたラベルを分注された検体が収容されている検体容器に貼り付け等する必要があり多大な労力を必要としていた。

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[0005]

この発明の課題は、分注された検体に関する識別情報を容易に付与することができる試験 管及び該試験管を用いた分注システムを提供することである。

[0006]

【課題を解決するための手段】

請求項1記載の試験管は、一端が閉じ他端に開口部を有する筒状の収容部と、前記開口部を閉じる蓋部とを構える試験管であって、前記収容部の外周部に第1のRFIDタグを挿入可能な差込部を有することを特徴とする。

[0007]

この請求項1記載の試験管によれば、検体構報を記憶する第1のRFIDタグを挿入可能な差込部を有するため、試験管の使用が終了した場合には、第1のRFIDタグを差込部から取り外し再利用することができる。

[0008]

また、請求項2記載の試験管は、前記差込部が前記収容部の上部外周部に設けられていることを特徴とする。この請求項2記載の試験管によれば、差込部が収容部の上部外周部に設けられているため、第1のRFIDタグを装着した時においても、試験管の収容部に収容された検体の状態を容易に確認することができる。

[0009]

また、請求項3記載の試験管は、前記差込部が前記第1のRFIDタグを前記収容部の外周部に沿って挿入可能な挿入口を有することを特徴とする。この請求項3記載の試験管によれば、差込部が第1のRFIDタグを収容部の外周部に沿って挿入可能な挿入口を有するため、装置により又は、手作業により第1のRFIDタグを差込部に容易に装着し又は取り外すことができる。

[0010]

また、請求項4記載の試験管は、前記第1のRFIDタグがマイクロ波方式のRFIDタグにより構成されることを特徴とする。

[0011]

また、請求項 5 記載の試験管は、前記差込部に前記第 1 のRFIDタグが差し込まれたことを特徴とする。この請求項 5 記載の試験管によれば、試験管に収容された検体と該検体の検体情報を一体として管理することができる。

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[0012]

また、請求項 6 記載の分注システムは、請求項 5 記載の試験管により構成される元検体用検体容器と、請求項 5 記載の試験管により構成される分注検体用検体容器と、前記元検体用検体容器の前記収容部に挿入された分注ヘッドにより元検体の一部を吸引し、前記分注検体用検体容器に吐出する分注装置とを備える分注システムにおいて、前記分注ヘッドに前記第 1 のRFIDタグに対して精報の送受信を行うための第 1 のアンテナを備えることを特徴とする。

[0013]

また、請求項7記載の分注システムは、前記分注ヘッドを前記元検体用検体容器内に挿入した際に、前記第1のアンテナを介して前記元検体用検体容器に備えられている前記第1のRFIDタグに記憶されている検体情報を受信する受信手段と、前記分注ヘッドを前記分注検体用検体容器内に挿入した際に、前記第1のアンテナを介して前記分注検体用検体容器に構えられている前記第1のRFIDタグに検体情報を送信する送信手段を更に構えることを特徴とする。

[0014]

この請求項 6、請求項 7 記載の分注システムによれば、分注ヘッドを元検体用検体容器内に挿入し元検体の一部を吸引する際に、第1のアンテナを介して元検体用検体容器に備えられている第1のRFIDタグに記憶されている検体情報を受信し、分注ヘッドを分注検体用検体容器内に挿入し吸引した元検体を吐出する際に、第1のアンテナを介して分注検体用検体容器に備えられている第1のRFIDタグに検体情報を送信する。従って、分注処理を行うのと同時に分注された検体の検体情報を確実に第1のRFIDタグに書き込むことができる。

[0015]

また、請求項8記載の分注システムは、複数本の前記分注検体用検体容器を収容する検体ラックを更に備え、該検体ラックは、該検体ラックに収容されている前記分注検体用検体容器に関する検体指示情報を記憶する検体指示情報記憶手段を有することを特徴とする。この請求項8記載の分注システムは、検体ラックに収容されている分注検体用検体容器に収容されている検体の検体指示情報を検体と一体としてラック単位で管理することができる。

[0016]

また、請求項9記載の分注システムは、前記検体指示精報記憶手段が第2のRFIDタグにより構成され、第2のRFIDタグに対して情報の送受信を行うための第2のアンテナを更に備えることを特徴とする。また、請求項10記載の分注システムは、前記第2のRFIDタグが電磁誘導方式のRFIDタグにより構成されることを特徴とする。

[0017]

この請求項9、請求項10記載の分注システムによれば、第2のRFIDタグが電磁誘導方式であるため記憶容量が大きく、検体ラックの各収容部に収容されている検体の検体指示情報を一つの第2のRFIDタグに記憶させることができる。

[0018]

【発明の実施の形態】

以下、図面を参照して、この発明の実施の形態に係る試験管について説明する。図1は、この発明の実施の形態に係る試験管の外観図である。この試験管2は、一端が閉じ他端に開口部を有する円筒状の収容部4と、開口部を閉じる蓋部6とを備えている。また、収容部4の上部、即ち蓋部6の下縁に沿った位置に、RFIDタグ(第1のRFIDタグ)10を挿入可能な差込部8が設けられている。この差込部8は、RFIDタグ10では、試験管2に収容された検体の検体情報(受付日、検体ID)等が記憶されている。

[0019]

ここで、RFIDタグは、記憶されている精報の読み取り及び書き換えを非接触で行うことができる自動認識タグである。このRFIDタグには、電磁誘導作用を利用した電磁結

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合方式、静電気による誘導作用を利用した静電結合方式、電磁誘導を利用した電磁誘導方式、マイクロ波帯の電波を利用したマイクロ波方式及び赤外線等の光を利用した光方式等 が存在する。

[0020]

RFIDタグ10には、マイクロ波方式のRFIDタグが用いられる。このマイクロ波方式のRFIDタグは、2.45GHを帯のマイクロ波を利用して精報の送受信を行う。このマイクロ波方式のRFIDタグは、2.45GHをという非常に高い周波数を使用しているため、外来ノイズ(雑音)による通信の影響を受けにくいという特性を有する。

[0021]

更に、RFIDタグは、使用形態に応じて様々な形状、例えば、ラベル形、コイン形、カード形等にすることができる。このうち、RFIDタグ10にはラベル形が用いられている。

[0022]

図2は、試験管2の差込部8にRFIDタグ10を差し込む状態を説明するための図である。図2(a)に示す試験管2の差込部8の挿入口8aに、図2(b)に示すように、ラベル状のRFIDタグ10の一端を挿入し、RFIDタグ10を差込部8内に押し込む。図2(c)に試験管2の差込部8にRFIDタグ10を装着した状態を示す。

[0023]

図3は、試験管2の差込部8からRFIDタグ10を取り外す状態を説明するための図である。図3(の)に示す差込部8に装着されたRFIDタグ10の一端を、図3(b)に示すように引き出し、図3(c)に示すように、試験管2の差込部8からRFIDタグ10を取り外す。

[0024]

この実施の形態にかかる試験管 2 によれば、検体情報を記憶するR F I D タグ 1 0 を挿入可能な差込部 8 を有するため、試験管 2 の使用が終了した場合には、R F I D タグ 1 0 を差込部 8 から取り外し再利用することができる。従って、検査等に用いるR F I D タグ付試験管のコストの低減を図ることができる。

[0025]

また、この実施の形態にかかる試験管2によれば、差込部8が収容部4の上部外周部に設けられているため、RFIDタグ10を装着した時においても、試験管2の収容部4に収容された検体の状態を容易に確認することができる。

[0026]

また、この実施の形態にかかる試験管2によれば、差込部8がRFIDタグ10を収容部4の外周部に沿って挿入可能な挿入口8のを有するため、装置により又は、手作業によりRFIDタグ10を差込部8に容易に装着し又は取り外すことができる。

[0027]

また、この実施の形態にかかる試験管2の差込部8にRFIDタグ10が差し込まれた場合には、試験管2に収容された検体と該検体の検体情報を一体として管理し、取り扱うことができる。

[0028]

次に、この発明の実施の形態にかかる試験管を用いた分注システムについて説明する。図4は、実施の形態にかかる分注システムの概略構成図である。この分注システムは、分注装置20により元検体用検体容器22に収容されている検体を、検体ラック24に収容されている分注検体用検体容器26に分注するものである。

[0029]

分注装置20は、水平方向及び垂直方向に移動可能な分注ヘッド20点を有しており、分注ヘッド20点には、元検体用検体容器22に備えられているRFIDタグ(第1のRFIDタグ)22点及び分注検体用検体容器26に備えられているRFIDタグ(第1のRFIDタグ)26点との間で精報の送受信を行うためのアンテナ(第1のアンテナ)20bが設けられている。

[0030]

ここでアンテナ20 b は、リング状の形状を有しており、分注ヘッド20 a の先端部近傍に設けられている。なお、アンテナ20 b には、元検体用検体容器22又は分注検体用検体容器26に分注ヘッド20 a が挿入されたときに、元検体用検体容器22又は分注検体用検体容器26に設けられているRFIDタグとの間で情報の送受信が可能となるように通信距離を調整するための形状(例えば、所定の幅を有するリング状の形状)が付与されている。また、分注装置20には、検体ラック24に構えられているRFIDタグ(第2のRFIDタグ)24 a、即ち検体指示情報記憶手段との間で情報の送受信を行うためのアンテナ(第2のアンテナ)20 c が設けられている。

[0031]

元検体用検体容器 2 2 は、図 1 に示す試験管により構成されており、 R F I D タグ 2 2 a には、元検体用検体容器 2 2 に収容されている検体の検体情報(受付日、検体 I D) が記憶されている。また、分注検体用検体容器 2 6 は、図 1 に示す試験管により構成されており、 R F I D タグ 2 6 a には、分注検体用検体容器 2 6 に収容される検体の検体情報が記憶される。

[0032]

検体ラック24には、RFIDタグ24のが備えられている。このRFIDタグ24のには、電磁誘導方式のRFIDタグが用いられる。この電磁誘導方式のRFIDタグは、主に250KHz以下、あるいは13.56MHz帯の長・中波長の電磁波を利用する。電磁誘導方式のRFIDタグのアンテナとしてはコイルを用い、2つのコイルの誘導磁束による誘起電圧を利用して精報の送受信を行う。この電磁誘導方式のRFIDタグには、記憶できる精報量が数パイトのものから数百パイトのものまで存在する。このRFIDタグ24のには、検体ラック24に収容される分注検体に関する検体指示情報が記憶される。

[0033]

図5は、分注装置20のプロック構成図である。この分注装置20は、分注装置の全体を制御する制御部30を備えている。この制御部30には、分注ヘッド20のの駆動制御を行う分注ヘッド駆動部32及び検体の吸引、吐出を行うためのポンプ34が接続されている。

[0034]

また、制御部30には、RFIDタグ22 a 又はRFIDタグ26 a との間で精報の読み取り書き込みを行う第1タグ読取書込装置36を介してアンテナ20 b が接続されており、また、RFIDタグ24 a との間で情報の読み取り書き込みを行う第2タグ読取書込装置38を介してアンテナ20 c が接続されている。更に検体精報等を記憶する記憶部40が接続されている。

[0035]

次に、図6のフローチャートを参照して実施の形態に係る検体の分注処理について説明する。まず、図7(丸)に示すように、制御部30からの制御信号に基づいて、分注ヘッド駆動部32により分注ヘッド20丸を駆動し、元検体用検体容器22上に移動させ、更にた検体用検体容器22の収容部内に分注ヘッド20丸を挿入する(ステップ810)。

[0036]

分注ヘッド20 のが元検体用検体容器22の収容部内に挿入されると、アンテナ20 bにより、元検体用検体容器22に備えられているRFIDタグ22のから送信される検体情報を受信し、第19 が読取書込装置36 により検体情報を読み取る(ステップ S11)。 そして、この読み取った検体情報を記憶部40 に記憶する(ステップ S12)。次に、制御部30 からの制御信号に基づいて、ポンプ34 により元検体用検体容器22 に収容されている元検体を必要量だり吸引する。

[0037]

次に、図7(b) に示すように、制御部30からの制御信号に基づいて、分注ヘッド駆動部32により分注ヘッド20瓜を駆動し、検体ラック24に収容されている所定の分注検

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体用検体容器26上に移動させ、更に分注検体用検体容器26の収容部内に分注ヘッド20 a. を挿入する(ステップ S 14)。

[0038]

分注ヘッド 2 0 a が分注検体用検体容器 2 6 の収容部内に挿入されると、第1 タグ読取書込装置 3 6 を介してアンテナ 2 0 b により、分注検体用検体容器 2 6 に備えられている R F I D タグ 2 6 a に対して、記憶部 4 0 に記憶されている元検体の検体情報を送信し、 R F I D タグ 2 6 a に対して検体情報を書き込む(ステップ S 1 5)。次に、制御部 3 0 からの制御信号に基づいて、ポンプ 3 4 を制御し分注検体用検体容器 2 6 内に吸引した検体を吐出する(ステップ S 1 6)。

[0039]

次に、分注を行った分注検体用検体容器26の検体ラック24上の位置情報と、この分注検体用検体容器26のRFIDタグ26のに書き込まれた検体情報を結び付けた(紐付けた)検体指示情報を作成し、記憶部40に記憶する(ステップS17)。そして、分注する必要のあるすべての検体について分注が終了したが否かの判断を行い(ステップS18)、まだ分注すべき検体が残っている場合には、ステップS10に戻って、次の検体の分注処理を行う(ステップS10~ステップS17)。

[0040]

ステップ 8 1 8 において、分注する必要のあるすべての検体について、分注処理が終了したと判断された場合には、分注検体用検体容器 2 6 が収容されている検体ラック 2 4 のラック番号と、この検体ラック 2 4 に収容されている検体の検体指示情報を記憶部 4 0 から読み出し、検体ラック 2 4 に備えられている R F I D タグ 2 4 & に書き込む。即ち、第 2 タグ読取書込装置 3 8 を介してアンテナ 2 0 c から R F I D タグ 2 4 & に対して検体指示情報を送信し、 R F I D タグ 2 4 & に対して検体指示情報を書き込む(ステップ S 1 9)

[0041]

この実施の形態にかかる分注システムによれば、分注ヘッド20 のを元検体用検体容器内22に挿入し元検体の一部を吸引する際に、アンテナ20 6を介して元検体用検体容器に備えられている 校体 備報を受信し、分注ヘッド20 のを分注検体用検体容器内26に挿入し吸引した元検体を吐出する際に、アンテナ20 6を介して分注検体用検体容器26に備えられているRFIDタグ26のに検体 橋報を送信する。従って、分注処理を行うのと同時に分注された検体の検体 情報を確実にRFIDタグ26のに書き込むことができる。

[0042]

また、検体ラック24に、該検体ラック24に収容されている分注検体用検体容器26に関する検体指示情報を記憶するRFIDタグ240を備えるため、検体ラックに収容されている分注検体用検体容器に収容されている検体の検体情報を検体と一体としてラック単位で管理することができる。更に、RFIDタグ240が電磁誘導方式であるため記憶容量が大きく、検体ラック24の各収容部に収容されている検体の検体指示情報を一つのRFIDタグに記憶させることができる。

[0043]

なお、上述の実施の形態においては、検体情報として受付日及び検体 I D を元検体用検体容器に備えられている R F I D タグ 2 2 c 及び分注検体用検体容器 2 6 に備えられている R F I D タグ 2 6 c に記憶させているが、更に、検査項目名、検査材料名、患者名、性別、年齢、病院名、カルテ番号等を記憶させるようにしてもよい。

[0044]

【発明の効果】

この発明の試験管によれば、検体精報を記憶する第1のRFIDタグを挿入可能な差込部を有するため、試験管の使用が終了した場合には、第1のRFIDタグを差込部から取り外し再利用することができる。また、差込部が収容部の上部外周部に設けられているため、第1のRFIDタグを装着した時においても、試験管の収容部に収容された検体の状態

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を容易に確認することができる。更に、差込部が第1のRFIDタグを収容部の外周部に沿って挿入可能な挿入口を有するため、装置により又は、手作業により第1のRFIDタグを差込部に容易に装着し又は取り外すことができる。また、試験管に収容された検体と該検体の検体機報を一体として管理することができる。

[0045]

また、この発明の分注システムによれば、分注ヘッドを元検体用検体容器内に挿入し元検体の一部を吸引する際に、第1のアンテナを介して元検体用検体容器に備えられている第1のRFIDタグに記憶されている検体情報を受信し、分注ヘッドを分注検体用検体容器内に挿入し吸引した元検体を吐出する際に、第1のアンテナを介して分注検体用検体容器に備えられている第1のRFIDタグに検体情報を送信する。従って、分注処理を行うのと同時に分注された検体の検体情報を容易に第1のRFIDタグに書き込むことができる。また、検体ラックに収容されている分注検体用検体容器に収容されている検体の検体指報を検体と一体としてラック単位で管理することができる。

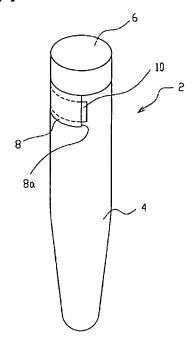
【図面の簡単な説明】

- 【図1】この発明の実施の形態に係る試験管の外観図である。
- 【図2】この発明の実施の形態に係る試験管にRFIDタグを装着する状態を示す図である。
- 【図3】この発明の実施の形態に係る試験管からRFIDタグを取り外す状態を示す図である。
- 【図4】この発明の実施の形態に係る分注システムの概略構成を示す図である。
- 【図5】この発明の実施の形態に係る分注システムのプロック構成図である。
- 【図 6 】この発明の実施の形態に係る分注システムによる分注処理を説明するためのフローチャートである。
- 【図7】この発明の実施の形態に係る分注システムによる分注処理を説明するための図である。

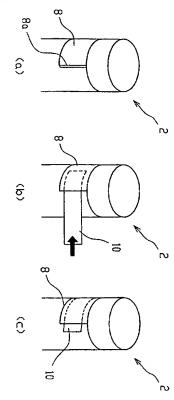
【符号の説明】

2 試験管、4 収容部、6 蓋部、8 差込部、8 4 挿入口、10 RFIDタグ、20 分注装置、20 4 分注へッド、20 b 20 c アンテナ、22 元検体用検体容器、24 検体ラック、24 A RFIDタグ、26 分注検体用検体容器、30 制御部、32 分注ヘッド駆動部、34 ポンプ、36 第1タグ読取書込装置、38 第2タグ読取書込装置、40 記憶部。

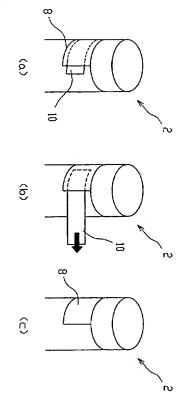
[図1]



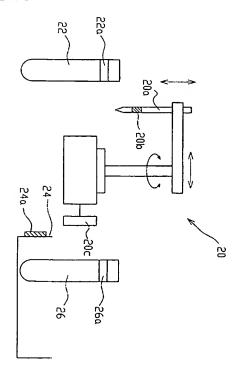
[22]



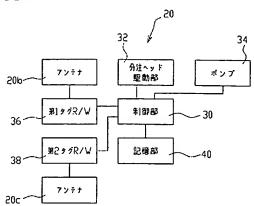
[🗵 3]



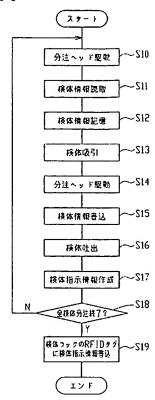
【図4】



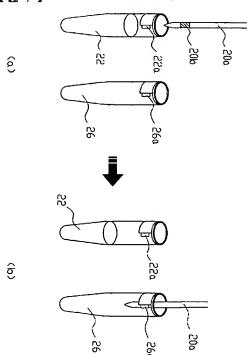
【図5】



[26]



[27]



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Bibliography

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2G058

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2G058 CA02 CB15 EA01 EB05 ED03 GC01 GC02 GC05 GC06 GC09

[Translation done.]

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Epitome

(57) [Abstract]

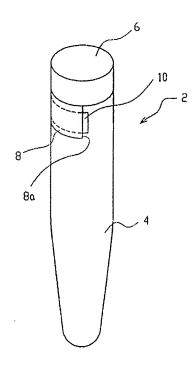
[Technical problem] Offer the test tube which can give the identification information about the specimen poured distributively easily.

[Means for Solution] The test tube 2 is equipped with the hold section 4 of the shape of a cylinder to which an end has opening in the closing other end, and the covering device 6 which closes opening. Moreover, the spigot section 8 which can insert RF-ID tag 10 is formed in the location in alignment with

the margo inferior of the upper part 6 of the hold section 4, i.e., a covering device. This spigot section 8 has insertion opening 8a which can be inserted along with the periphery section of the hold section 8 for RF-ID tag 10. The specimen information on the specimen held in the test tube 2 (a reception day, Specimen ID) etc. is memorized by this RF-ID tag 10.

[Selection drawing] drawing 1

[Translation done.]



[Translation done.]

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1]

An end is the test tube which equips the closing other end with the tubed hold section which has opening, and the covering device which closes said opening,

The test tube characterized by having the spigot section which can insert the 1st RF-ID tag in the periphery section of said hold section.

[Claim 2]

Said spigot section is a test tube according to claim 1 characterized by being prepared in the up periphery section of said hold section.

[Claim 3]

Said spigot section is a test tube according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by having insertion opening which can be inserted along with the periphery section of said hold section for said 1st RF-ID tag. [Claim 4]

Said 1st RF-ID tag is a test tube given in any 1 term of claim 1 characterized by being constituted by the RF-ID tag of a microwave method - claim 3.

[Claim 5]

A test tube given in any 1 term of claim 1 characterized by inserting said 1st RF-ID tag in said spigot section - claim 4.

[Claim 6]

The specimen container for former specimens constituted with a test tube according to claim 5, The specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens constituted with a test tube according to claim 5,

Distributive-pouring equipment which attracts a part of former specimen by the distributive-pouring head inserted in said hold section of the specimen container for said former specimens, and carries out the regurgitation to said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens

In a preparation ****** system,

The distributive-pouring system characterized by having the 1st antenna for transmitting and receiving information to said 1st RF-ID tag on said distributive-pouring head.

[Claim 7]

A receiving means to receive the specimen information memorized by said 1st RF-ID tag with which the specimen container for said former specimens is equipped through said 1st antenna when said distributive-pouring head is inserted into the specimen container for said former specimens, A transmitting means to transmit specimen information to said 1st RF-ID tag with which said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens is equipped through said 1st antenna when said distributive-pouring head is inserted into said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens Furthermore, the distributive-pouring system according to claim 6 characterized by having.

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[Claim 8]

It has further the specimen rack which holds said two or more specimen containers for distributivepouring specimens,

This specimen rack is a distributive-pouring system according to claim 6 or 7 characterized by having a specimen directions information storage means to memorize the specimen directions information about said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens held in this specimen rack.

[Claim 9]

Said specimen directions information storage means is a distributive-pouring system given in any 1 term of claim 6 characterized by having further the 2nd antenna for being constituted by the 2nd RF-ID tag, and transmitting and receiving information to this 2nd RF-ID tag - claim 8.

[Claim 10]

Said 2nd RF-ID tag is a distributive-pouring system according to claim 9 characterized by being constituted by the RF-ID tag of an electromagnetic induction type.

[Translation done.]

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention]

This invention relates to the distributive-pouring system using the test tube which holds specimens, such as blood, plasma, and a blood serum, and this test tube.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]

Conventionally, the specimen container which holds specimens, such as blood, plasma, and a blood serum, is conveyed by the inspection institute which conducts inspection of a specimen etc., after reception processing is performed in an inspection institute, is held in a specimen rack and kept. That is,

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attachment of the label which indicated the specimen information which contains a specimen number, a reception day, etc. in the specimen container which held first reception processing, for example, the specimen conveyed by the inspection institute, is performed. Next, inspection of a specimen etc. is conducted, while specimen directions information is created by what the specimen information on the specimen which the specimen in which reception processing was performed is held in a specimen rack, for example, is kept by the location number and rack of the hold section of a rack etc. is associated for (string attachment **) and storage of a specimen is performed based on this specimen directions information (for example, patent reference 1 reference).

[0003]

[Patent reference 1]

JP,8-285855,A

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]

When inspection of a specimen is directed, based on specimen directions information, a required specimen is sampled from a specimen rack, distributive pouring is performed and inspection is conducted using the specimen poured distributively. In this case, attachment etc. needed to be carried out to the specimen container with which the specimen which had the label with which the specimen information about the specimen poured distributively was indicated poured distributively is held, and the great effort was needed for it.

[0005]

The technical problem of this invention is offering the distributive-pouring system using the test tube and this test tube which can give the identification information about the specimen poured distributively easily.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem]

An end is the test tube which equips the closing other end with the tubed hold section which has opening, and the covering device which closes said opening, and a test tube according to claim 1 is characterized by having the spigot section which can insert the 1st RF-ID tag in the periphery section of said hold section.

[0007]

Since it has the spigot section which can insert the 1st RF-ID tag which memorizes specimen information according to this test tube according to claim 1, when the activity of a test tube is completed, the 1st RF-ID tag can be removed from the spigot section, and can be reused.

[8000]

Moreover, a test tube according to claim 2 is characterized by preparing said spigot section in the up periphery section of said hold section. According to this test tube according to claim 2, since the spigot section is prepared in the up periphery section of the hold section, when it equips with the 1st RF-ID tag,

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the condition of the specimen held in the hold section of a test tube can be checked easily. [0009]

Moreover, a test tube according to claim 3 is characterized by said spigot section having insertion opening which can be inserted along with the periphery section of said hold section for said 1st RF-ID tag. since the spigot section has insertion opening which can be inserted along with the periphery section of the hold section for the 1st RF-ID tag according to this test tube according to claim 3 -- equipment -- or the spigot section can be easily equipped with the 1st RF-ID tag by handicraft, or it can remove.

[0010]

Moreover, a test tube according to claim 4 is characterized by said 1st RF-ID tag being constituted by the RF-ID tag of a microwave method.

[0011]

Moreover, a test tube according to claim 5 is characterized by inserting said 1st RF-ID tag in said spigot section. According to this test tube according to claim 5, the specimen information on a specimen and this specimen held in the test tube is manageable as one.

[0012]

Moreover, the specimen container for former specimens which a distributive-pouring system according to claim 6 consists of with a test tube according to claim 5, A part of former specimen is attracted by the distributive-pouring head inserted in said hold section of the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens constituted with a test tube according to claim 5, and the specimen container for said former specimens. In a distributive-pouring system equipped with the distributive-pouring equipment which carries out the regurgitation to said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens, it is characterized by having the 1st antenna for transmitting and receiving information to said 1st RF-ID tag on said distributive-pouring head.

[0013]

Moreover, when a distributive-pouring system according to claim 7 inserts said distributive-pouring head into the specimen container for said former specimens A receiving means to receive the specimen information memorized by said 1st RF-ID tag with which the specimen container for said former specimens is equipped through said 1st antenna, When said distributive-pouring head is inserted into said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens, it is characterized by having further a transmitting means to transmit specimen information to said 1st RF-ID tag with which said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens is equipped through said 1st antenna.

[0014]

In case according to this claim 6 and the distributive-pouring system according to claim 7 a distributive-pouring head is inserted into the specimen container for former specimens and a part of former specimen is attracted. The specimen information memorized by the 1st RF-ID tag with which the specimen container for former specimens is equipped through the 1st antenna is received. In case the

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regurgitation of the former specimen which inserted the distributive-pouring head into the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens, and attracted it is carried out, specimen information is transmitted to the 1st RF-ID tag with which the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens is equipped through the 1st antenna. Therefore, the specimen information on the specimen poured distributively by performing distributive-pouring processing and coincidence can be certainly written in the 1st RF-ID tag.

[0015]

Moreover, a distributive-pouring system according to claim 8 is further equipped with the specimen rack which holds said two or more specimen containers for distributive-pouring specimens, and this specimen rack is characterized by having a specimen directions information storage means to memorize the specimen directions information about said specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens held in this specimen rack. This distributive-pouring system according to claim 8 can manage the specimen directions information on the specimen held in the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens held in the specimen rack per rack as a specimen and one.

[0016]

Moreover, a distributive-pouring system according to claim 9 is characterized by having further the 2nd antenna for said specimen directions information storage means being constituted by the 2nd RF-ID tag, and transmitting and receiving information to the 2nd RF-ID tag. Moreover, a distributive-pouring system according to claim 10 is characterized by said 2nd RF-ID tag being constituted by the RF-ID tag of an electromagnetic induction type.

[0017]

According to this claim 9 and the distributive-pouring system according to claim 10, the 2nd one RF-ID tag can be made to memorize the specimen directions information on the specimen which storage capacity is large since the 2nd RF-ID tag is an electromagnetic induction type, and is held in each hold section of a specimen rack.

[0018]

[Embodiment of the Invention]

Hereafter, with reference to a drawing, the test tube concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention is explained. <u>Drawing 1</u> is the external view of the test tube concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention. This test tube 2 is equipped with the hold section 4 of the shape of a cylinder to which an end has opening in the closing other end, and the covering device 6 which closes opening. Moreover, the spigot section 8 which can insert RF-ID tag (the 1st RF-ID tag) 10 is formed in the location in alignment with the margo inferior of the upper part 6 of the hold section 4, i.e., a covering device. This spigot section 8 has insertion opening 8a which can be inserted along with the periphery section of the hold section 8 for RF-ID tag 10. The specimen information on the specimen held in the test tube 2 (a reception day, Specimen ID) etc. is memorized by this RF-ID tag 10. [0019]

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Here, an RF-ID tag is an automatic-recognition tag which can perform informational reading and informational rewriting which are memorized by non-contact. The optical method using light, such as an electromagnetic coupling type using an electromagnetic-induction operation, an electrostatic coupling type using the induction operation by static electricity, an electromagnetic induction type using electromagnetic induction, a microwave method using the electric wave of a microwave band, and infrared radiation, etc. exists in this RF-ID tag.

[0020]

The RF-ID tag of a microwave method is used for RF-ID tag 10. The RF-ID tag of this microwave method transmits and receives information using the microwave of a 2.45GHz band. Since the RF-ID tag of this microwave method is using the very high frequency of 2.45GHz, it has the property of being hard to be influenced of the communication link by the outpatient department noise (noise). [0021]

Furthermore, an RF-ID tag can be used as various configurations, for example, a label form, a coin form, a card type, etc. according to an activity gestalt. Among these, the label form is used for RF-ID tag 10.

[0022]

<u>Drawing 2</u> is drawing for explaining the condition of inserting RF-ID tag 10 in the spigot section 8 of a test tube 2. As shown in <u>drawing 2</u> (b), the end of label-like RF-ID tag 10 is inserted in insertion opening 8a of the spigot section 8 of the test tube 2 shown in <u>drawing 2</u> (a), and RF-ID tag 10 is stuffed into it in the spigot section 8. The condition of having equipped <u>drawing 2</u> (c) with RF-ID tag 10 at the spigot section 8 of a test tube 2 is shown.

[0023]

<u>Drawing 3</u> is drawing for explaining the condition of removing RF-ID tag 10 from the spigot section 8 of a test tube 2. As the end of RF-ID tag 10 with which the spigot section 8 shown in <u>drawing 3</u> (a) was equipped is pulled out as shown in <u>drawing 3</u> (b), and it is shown in <u>drawing 3</u> (c), RF-ID tag 10 is removed from the spigot section 8 of a test tube 2.

[0024]

Since it has the spigot section 8 which can insert RF-ID tag 10 which memorizes specimen information according to the test tube 2 concerning the gestalt of this operation, when the activity of a test tube 2 is completed, RF-ID tag 10 can be removed from the spigot section 8, and can be reused. Therefore, reduction of the cost of the test tube with an RF-ID tag used for inspection etc. can be aimed at. [0025]

Moreover, according to the test tube 2 concerning the gestalt of this operation, since the spigot section 8 is formed in the up periphery section of the hold section 4, when it equips with RF-ID tag 10, the condition of the specimen held in the hold section 4 of a test tube 2 can be checked easily.

[0026]

since [moreover,] the spigot section 8 has insertion opening 8a which can be inserted along with the

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periphery section of the hold section 4 for RF-ID tag 10 according to the test tube 2 concerning the gestalt of this operation -- equipment -- or the spigot section 8 can be easily equipped with RF-ID tag 10 by handicraft, or it can remove.

[0027]

Moreover, when RF-ID tag 10 is inserted in the spigot section 8 of the test tube 2 concerning the gestalt of this operation, the specimen information on a specimen and this specimen held in the test tube 2 can be managed as one, and can be dealt with.

[0028]

Next, the distributive-pouring system using the test tube concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention is explained. <u>Drawing 4</u> is the outline block diagram of the distributive-pouring system concerning the gestalt of operation. This distributive-pouring system pours distributively the specimen held in the specimen container 22 for former specimens by distributive-pouring equipment 20 to the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens held in the specimen rack 24. [0029]

It has perpendicularly movable distributive-pouring head 20with horizontal and distributive-pouring equipment 20 a, and antenna (1st antenna) 20b for transmitting and receiving information between RF-ID tag (1st RF-ID tag) 26a with which RF-ID tag(1st RF-ID tag) 22a and the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens with which the specimen container 22 for former specimens is equipped are equipped is prepared in distributive-pouring head 20a.

[0030]

Antenna 20b has the ring-like configuration and is prepared near the point of distributive-pouring head 20a here. In addition, when distributive-pouring head 20a is inserted in the specimen container 22 for former specimens, or the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens, the configuration (for example, ring-like configuration of having predetermined width of face) for adjusting a communication range so that informational transmission and reception may be attained between the RF-ID tags prepared in the specimen container 22 for former specimens or the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is given to antenna 20b. Moreover, antenna (2nd antenna) 20c for transmitting and receiving information between RF-ID tag(2nd RF-ID tag) 24a with which the specimen rack 24 is equipped, i.e., a specimen directions information storage means, is prepared in distributive-pouring equipment 20.

[0031]

The specimen container 22 for former specimens is constituted by the test tube shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, and the specimen information on the specimen held in the specimen container 22 for former specimens (a reception day, Specimen ID) is memorized by RF-ID tag22a. Moreover, the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is constituted by the test tube shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, and the specimen information on the specimen held in the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is memorized by RF-ID tag26a.

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[0032]

The specimen rack 24 is equipped with RF-ID tag 24a. The RF-ID tag of an electromagnetic induction type is used for this RF-ID tag24a. The RF-ID tag of this electromagnetic induction type mainly uses the electromagnetic wave of the merit and medium wave length of 250kHz or less or a 13.56MHz band. Information is transmitted and received using the induced voltage by the induction magnetic flux of two coils, using a coil as an antenna of the RF-ID tag of an electromagnetic induction type. Memorizable amount of information exists in the RF-ID tag of this electromagnetic induction type from what is several bytes to hundreds of bytes of thing. A label form or a card type is used for this RF-ID tag24a. The specimen directions information about the distributive-pouring specimen held in the specimen rack 24 is memorized by this RF-ID tag24a.

[0033]

<u>Drawing 5</u> is the block block diagram of distributive-pouring equipment 20. This distributive-pouring equipment 20 is equipped with the control section 30 which controls the whole distributive-pouring equipment. The pump 34 for performing attraction of the distributive-pouring head actuator 32 which performs actuation control of distributive-pouring head 20a, and a specimen, and the regurgitation is connected to this control section 30.

[0034]

[0035]

Moreover, antenna 20c is connected through the 2nd tag reading write-in equipment 38 which antenna 20b is connected to the control section 30 through the 1st tag reading write-in equipment 36 which performs informational reading writing between RF-ID tag22a or RF-ID tag 26a, and performs informational reading writing between RF-ID tag 24a. Furthermore, the storage section 40 which memorizes specimen information etc. is connected.

Next, distributive-pouring processing of the specimen which starts the gestalt of operation with reference to the flow chart of <u>drawing 6</u> is explained. First, as shown in <u>drawing 7</u> (a), drive distributive-pouring head 20a by the distributive-pouring head actuator 32, it is made to move onto the specimen container 22 for former specimens based on the control signal from a control section 30, and distributive-pouring head 20a is further inserted in the hold circles of the specimen container 22 for former specimens (step S10).

[0036]

If distributive-pouring head 20a is inserted in the hold circles of the specimen container 22 for former specimens, the specimen information transmitted by antenna 20b from RF-ID tag22a with which the specimen container 22 for former specimens is equipped will be received, and specimen information will be read with 1st tag reading write-in equipment 36 (step S11). And this read specimen information is memorized in the storage section 40 (step S12). Next, based on the control signal from a control section 30, only an initial complement attracts the former specimen held in the specimen container 22 for former specimens with the pump 34.

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[0037]

Next, as shown in <u>drawing 7</u> (b), drive distributive-pouring head 20a by the distributive-pouring head actuator 32, it is made to move based on the control signal from a control section 30 onto the predetermined specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens held in the specimen rack 24, and distributive-pouring head 20a is further inserted in the hold circles of the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens (step S14).

[0038]

If distributive-pouring head 20a is inserted in the hold circles of the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens, through 1st tag reading write-in equipment 36, by antenna 20b, the specimen information on the former specimen memorized by the storage section 40 will be transmitted to RF-ID tag 26a with which the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is equipped, and specimen information will be written in to RF-ID tag 26a (step S15). Next, based on the control signal from a control section 30, the regurgitation of the specimen which controlled the pump 34 and drew in in the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is carried out (step S16). [0039]

Next, the specimen (beam with string) directions information which connected the positional information on the specimen rack 24 of the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens which poured distributively, and the specimen information written in RF-ID tag 26a of this specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is created, and it memorizes in the storage section 40 (step S17). And it judges whether distributive pouring was completed about all specimens with the need of pouring distributively (step S18), and when the specimen which should still be poured distributively remains, it returns to step S10 and distributive-pouring processing of the following specimen is performed (step S10 - step S17).

[0040]

When it is judged about all the specimens that have the need of pouring distributively, in step S18 that distributive-pouring processing was completed, the specimen directions information on the rack number of the specimen rack 24 with which the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is held, and the specimen held in this specimen rack 24 is read from the storage section 40, and it writes in RF-ID tag 24a with which the specimen rack 24 is equipped. That is, specimen directions information is transmitted to antenna 20c to RF-ID tag 24a through 2nd tag reading write-in equipment 38, and specimen directions information is written in to RF-ID tag 24a (step S19).

[0041]

In case according to the distributive-pouring system concerning the gestalt of this operation distributive-pouring head 20a is inserted in 22 in a specimen container for former specimens and a part of former specimen is attracted. The specimen information memorized by RF-ID tag 22a with which the specimen container for former specimens is equipped through antenna 20b is received. In case the regurgitation of the former specimen which inserted distributive-pouring head 20a in 26 in a specimen container for

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distributive-pouring specimens, and attracted it is carried out, specimen information is transmitted to RF-ID tag 26a with which the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens is equipped through antenna 20b. Therefore, the specimen information on the specimen poured distributively by performing distributive-pouring processing and coincidence can be certainly written in RF-ID tag 26a. [0042]

Moreover, since the specimen rack 24 is equipped with RF-ID tag 24a which memorizes the specimen directions information about the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens held in this specimen rack 24, the specimen information on the specimen held in the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens held in the specimen rack is manageable per rack as a specimen and one. Furthermore, one RF-ID tag can be made to memorize the specimen directions information on the specimen which storage capacity is large since RF-ID tag 24a is an electromagnetic induction type, and is held in each hold section of the specimen rack 24.

In addition, although RF-ID tag 26a with which RF-ID tag22a and the specimen container 26 for distributive-pouring specimens with which the specimen container for former specimens is equipped are equipped is made to memorize a reception day and Specimen ID as specimen information, you may make it make an inspection subject name, a specimen name, a name of patient, sex, age, a hospital name, a clinical recording number, etc. memorize further in the gestalt of above-mentioned operation. [0044]

[Effect of the Invention]

Since it has the spigot section which can insert the 1st RF-ID tag which memorizes specimen information according to the test tube of this invention, when the activity of a test tube is completed, the 1st RF-ID tag can be removed from the spigot section, and can be reused. Moreover, since the spigot section is prepared in the up periphery section of the hold section, when it equips with the 1st RF-ID tag, the condition of the specimen held in the hold section of a test tube can be checked easily. since [furthermore,] the spigot section has insertion opening which can be inserted along with the periphery section of the hold section for the 1st RF-ID tag -- equipment -- or the spigot section can be easily equipped with the 1st RF-ID tag by handicraft, or it can remove. Moreover, the specimen information on a specimen and this specimen held in the test tube is manageable as one.

Moreover, in case according to the distributive-pouring system of this invention a distributive-pouring head is inserted into the specimen container for former specimens and a part of former specimen is attracted The specimen information memorized by the 1st RF-ID tag with which the specimen container for former specimens is equipped through the 1st antenna is received. In case the regurgitation of the former specimen which inserted the distributive-pouring head into the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens, and attracted it is carried out, specimen information is transmitted to the 1st RF-ID tag with which the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens is equipped through

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the 1st antenna. Therefore, the specimen information on the specimen poured distributively by performing distributive-pouring processing and coincidence can be easily written in the 1st RF-ID tag. Moreover, the specimen directions information on the specimen held in the specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens held in the specimen rack is manageable per rack as a specimen and one.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the external view of the test tube concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Drawing 2] It is drawing showing the condition of equipping with an RF-ID tag in the test tube concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Drawing 3] It is drawing showing the condition of removing an RF-ID tag from the test tube concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Drawing 4] It is drawing showing the outline configuration of the distributive-pouring system concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Drawing 5] It is the block block diagram of the distributive-pouring system concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Drawing 6] It is a flow chart for explaining the distributive-pouring processing by the distributive-pouring system concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Drawing 7] It is drawing for explaining the distributive-pouring processing by the distributive-pouring system concerning the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[Description of Notations]

2 [-- The spigot section, 8a / -- Insertion opening, 10 / -- RF-ID tag,] -- A test tube, 4 -- The hold section, 6 -- A covering device, 8 20 -- Distributive-pouring equipment, 20a -- A distributive-pouring head, 20b, 20c -- Antenna, 22 [-- The specimen container for distributive-pouring specimens, 30 / -- A control section, 32 / -- A distributive-pouring head actuator, 34 / -- A pump, 36 / -- 1st tag reading write-in equipment, 38 / -- 2nd tag reading write-in equipment, 40 / -- Storage section.] -- The specimen container for former specimens, 24 -- A specimen rack, 24a -- An RF-ID tag, 26

[Translation done.]

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3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

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[Translation done.]

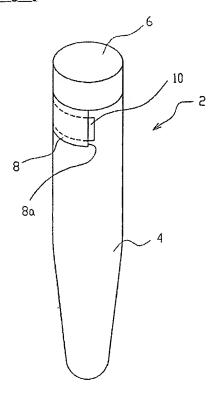
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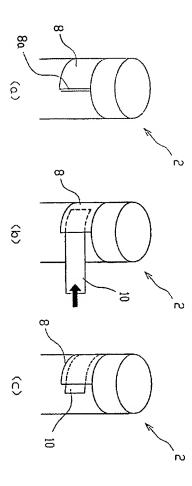
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DRAWINGS

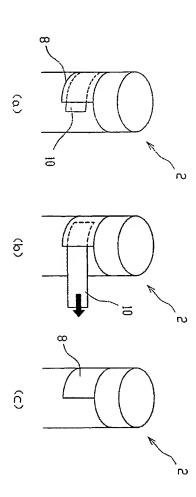
[Drawing 1]



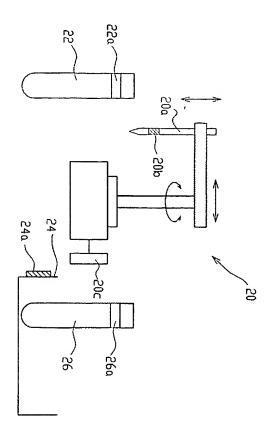
[Drawing 2]



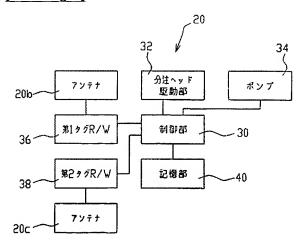
[Drawing 3]



[Drawing 4]

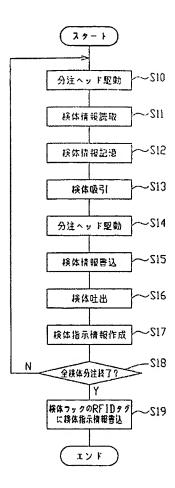


[Drawing 5]

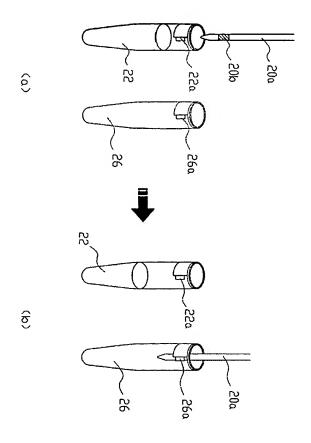


[Drawing 6]

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[Drawing 7]



[Translation done.]